

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the Abstract because the reference numerals are not within parentheses. In response, applicant has amended the Abstract to include parentheses and therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this ground of objection.

The Examiner objected to the Specification because there are references to the claims on pages 2-4 . In response, applicant has amended the specification to delete such references and therefore requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this ground of objection.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Aubry et al. In response, but without conceding the correctness of the Examiner's ground of rejection, applicant notes that claims 2 and 3 have been canceled, thereby rendering moot the rejection as to these claims, and claim 1 has been amended to overcome the Examiner's rejection.

Applicant maintains that Aubry et al. do not disclose a plug with a flange to be used for mounting which protrudes from the outer circumferential surface of the plug. Aubry et al. also fail to disclose that the plug has a stepped portion to enable part of a roller caulking an edge of the opening portion of the housing to revolve and travel along a periphery edge of the housing to couple the plug having the flange to the housing by caulking the edge of the opening of the housing.

In view of the amendments made herein and the remarks above, applicant maintains that claim 1 as amended is novel over Aubry et al. and respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this ground of rejection.

The Examiner rejected claims 4 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Aubry et al. in view of Hamano et al. The Examiner also rejected claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Aubry et al. in view of Katsuda et al and in further view of Hamano et al.

In response, but without conceding the correctness of the Examiner's ground of rejection, applicant notes that claims 4, 5, and 8 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby rendering moot the Examiner's ground of rejection.

The Examiner rejected claims 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Aubry et al. in view of Katsuda et al.

In response to the rejection of claim 7, but without conceding the correctness of the Examiner's ground of rejection, applicant notes that claim 7 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby rendering moot the Examiner's ground of rejection as to this claim.

In response to the rejection of claim 6, but without conceding the correctness of the Examiner's ground of rejection, applicant maintains that claim 6 has been amended to overcome the Examiner's rejection.

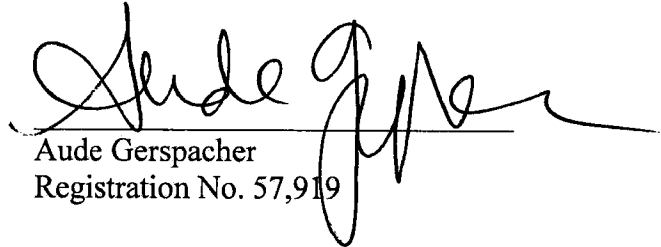
Applicant maintains that Katsuda et al. does not disclose the stepped portion being integrally with the housing by press working, but rather discloses that a housing is formed by press working. In addition, Katsuda et al. fail to disclose the plug having the flange in a direction approximately orthogonal to the outer circumferential surface or that the stepped portion which enables part of the roller caulking an edge of the housing to revolve and travel along a periphery edge of the housing is formed by press working. Applicant maintains that the edge of the opening of the housing can be caulked by coupling the plug to the housing by making part of the roller using the stepped portion revolve and travel along the periphery edge of the housing.

In view of the amendments made herein and the remarks above, applicant maintains that claim 6 as amended is not obvious over Aubry et al. in view of Katsuda et al. and respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this ground of rejection.

Reconsideration and allowance of the claims herein are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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